

WASHINGTON POST
19 September 1985

ARTICLE APPEARED
ON PAGE A-29

Greece Charges Three As Spies After U.S. Tip

Reuter

ATHENS, Sept. 18—Two Greek electronics experts were charged today with spying for the Soviet Union, and the government confirmed that a Greek naval officer had been arrested on suspicion of spying for a foreign power.

Alternate Defense Minister Antonis Drosoyannis, who announced the officer's arrest, did not specifically name the Soviet Union as the nation that had received the information, but he did say said the affair was linked with a Soviet diplomat who defected to the United States four months ago.

Greek news reports said Washington had given Athens new information about Soviet espionage since the defection of Sergei Bokhane. Press reports have said that Bokhane was the second-ranking officer in the KGB intelligence branch of the Soviet Embassy here.

Police Minister Athanasios Tsouras named the two electronics experts as Michael Megalokonomos, 37, and businessman Nikos Pipitsoulis, also 37.

Drosoyannis identified the arrested officer as a lieutenant commander who until recently had worked in the data processing unit at

Greece's defense headquarters. He told reporters that the officer had access to information about Greek defense but not to sensitive NATO data.

Tsouras said Megalokonomos had worked for ITT, then for the Hewlett-Packard company and then for a subsidiary of ITT called Standard Electric Hellas.

At the prosecutor's office, Megalokonomos denied charges that he had sold information to Moscow.

Pipitsoulis said he had sold an electrical device to Soviet officials for \$43,000 but said he saw nothing wrong in what he considered a normal commercial arrangement.

Tsouras said Megalokonomos had been found to possess spying equipment such as codebooks, a microfilm reading device, a radio for picking up special frequencies and instructions on how to work a radio transmitter.